

school's athletic programs. He initiated the Sports Challenge program, whereby he contributes one percent of collected receipts to school sports and exercise programs to Mariposa Elementary School. Mr. Dubberke often supplies ice to booths, concessions and exhibitors during the annual Mariposa County Fair, Homecoming and other community events.

Mr. Dubberke has held numerous leadership positions. He was appointed by the Governor to the Mariposa County Fair, Board of Directors. He has also served on the Mariposa County Water Agency Advisory Board and is past president of the Sierra Edelweiss German Club. For his tremendous service to his community, Mr. Dubberke has been honored with the Western Fairs Association's Blue Ribbon Award, Central California Excellence in Business Award in 2005, California Outstanding Retailer of the Month and was named Businessman of the Year in 2000 by the Mariposa County Chamber of Commerce.

The Americanism Medal is awarded to a person that has demonstrated extraordinary qualities of leadership, trustworthiness, service and patriotism. Mr. Dubberke has certainly met those qualifications; he understands the responsibility as an American citizen to respect the flag, teach others to support our Constitution, participate in government and to give back to our country. Mr. Dubberke recently published a book, "Three Times Blessed," in which he teaches valuable lessons on what it takes to find true happiness and success.

Mr. Dubberke and his wife have been married for over 50 years; they have four children and eight grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Dieter Dubberke upon being honored with the Americanism Medal. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Dubberke many years of continued success.

HONORING DONALD OETMAN ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Donald Oetman of Allegan as he retires from the International Union UAW after 45 years of loyal and dedicated service as a member and officer of the United Auto Workers. Since 2002, Don has served as director of UAW Region 1D, a vast district covering 62 counties that spans western, central and northern regions of Michigan, including the Upper Peninsula. During his service he has been a committed and enthusiastic voice for the working men and women and retirees of UAW Region 1D.

In 1963, shortly after graduating high school, Don went to work at Micromatic Textron in Holland, Michigan. Two years later, Don served as a member on the committee of plant workers that came together to form their own UAW local union—UAW Local 1502. Not only did these union supporters win the organizing drive, they also successfully negotiated the first contract with management.

Don quickly rose within the UAW when he was asked to serve as vice president of the

newly formed UAW Local 1502, becoming president in 1967. Don was also chosen as bargaining chairperson of his local, in addition to his duties as president. He served in these capacities until 1984 when he was appointed by UAW President Owen Bieber and Director Robert Flearman to the International Union UAW staff as a service representative of the Region 1D staff. Don went on to serve as assistant director to the 1D region from 1995–2002 and was elected director of Region 1D in 2002, and re-elected in 2006.

From the beginning, Don has understood the importance of community and has been active throughout the labor community and his community in West Michigan. He has served on the board of directors for several community organizations, including the Michigan Association of United Ways, the Red Cross, and the Michigan State University Labor Studies program. He also serves on the Muskegon and Kalamazoo Labor/Management Joint Participation Committees, the Workforce Development Board for Allegan and Kent Counties, the Coalition for Labor Union Women, and was a Local Union Discussion Leader for the Stewards/Committeemen training and for high school labor studies classes.

It is indicative of Don's big heart and giving nature that when he looks back over the past 45 years, he considers his greatest accomplishment as having served so many UAW members, retirees and their families. He was especially fond of telling the stories of the UAW in days past to the young staff he worked with, and in sharing this history Don has helped to pass his knowledge and enthusiasm onto the next generation of UAW leaders. For Don, it truly is the people within the UAW family that have made his many years with the UAW so rewarding.

While he is closing one chapter in his life, Don is looking forward to another that includes being at home with his wife Corlyn and helping with the yard work, spending more time with his three children and his grandchildren, enjoying a few more rounds of golf, and doing some fishing. He will also stay active in his church and the Allegan Democratic Party.

Madam Speaker, Don has made a lifetime of contributions to organized labor and his community, looking out for the best interests of workers across Michigan. He has exceeded the call to service in his professional and personal life, demonstrating leadership by example for generations of UAW members. Therefore Madam Speaker, I ask that you, and all of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives, join me in honoring UAW Region 1D Director Donald Oetman and congratulating him on his retirement from International Union UAW.

TRIBUTE TO THE MORRISTOWN JEWISH CENTER BEIT ISRAEL

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Morristown Jewish Center Beit Israel, of Morristown, New Jersey, which is celebrating its 80th Anniversary in 2010.

The Morristown Jewish community was first incorporated as a formal religious body on

January 5, 1899 as the House of Israel. Their first meeting place was at 4 Race Street, where Hebrew School classes were held and services were conducted. As the congregation grew, it moved several times to accommodate the expanding membership. In 1918, the religious body purchased a three-story Victorian home at 177 Speedwell Avenue in Morristown. The building was remodeled to accommodate religious services and religious school classes.

Between 1921 and 1924, the idea of creating a multi-purpose community center arose. During this time period, a demand for wider use of the facility for religious, cultural and social purposes developed. The desire for a building suited to these multiple purposes gained momentum. Maurice Epstein, founder of the M. Epstein Department Store, led a campaign to raise \$34,000 toward this goal. Shortly thereafter, plans were presented to the membership and the cornerstone of the new building was laid on March 3, 1929.

From the 1930's through the 1950's, Jewish community life revolved around the center. In the 1960's additional classrooms and a new social hall were built and in the 1980's the former gymnasium was converted into a ballroom. In 1987, the building, listed on the National Register, received a Heritage Commission marker. A nursery school was added in 1992.

Culturally, socially and spiritually, the Morristown Jewish Center Beit Israel has been a positive force in people's lives, and its members continue to enrich the well-being of Morristown and the surrounding area through its presence.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Morristown Jewish Center Beit Israel as it celebrates its 80th Anniversary.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL TEACHER WEEK

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1312, a resolution commemorating National Teacher Week. This week in May recognizes the millions of educators who play an integral role in shaping the lives of children across the country.

Teachers are charged with the essential responsibility of preparing the youngest generation of Americans to compete and excel in our global economy. Every day, they sacrifice for the sake of their students. They are relentless and admirable in performing a difficult and sometimes thankless job. They walk into their classrooms and face a daunting task—ensuring each student learns and succeeds.

That is why I'm working for our students, teachers and schools, especially during these economic hard times. Without federal aid to protect education jobs, budget crises at the State and local level will result in increased class sizes and massive layoffs. As a Member of Congress, it is my job to do what I can to make sure classroom doors stay open so students can learn. Last year, I voted for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (P.L. 111–5), which saved or created over 400,000 teaching jobs nationally, and nearly 7,000 in Minnesota.

In addition, I support the creation of a \$23 billion Education Jobs Fund. Without this injection of federal funding, hundreds of thousands of teachers across the country will be laid off, resulting in increased class sizes and reduced quality of education. This job-saving provision was incorporated in two bills I supported: the Jobs for Main Street Act, H.R. 2847, which passed the House last December, and the Local Jobs for America Act, H.R. 4812, still pending in the House. I join many of my colleagues in urging the Senate to include this fund in their next jobs package.

Each one of us has had a teacher who made a difference in our lives. I am honored to commemorate this valuable core of our community. I am also pleased to join students and teachers at Maxfield Elementary in St. Paul Public School District 625 and all Minnesotans in congratulating 6th grade teacher Ryan Vernosh as the 2010 Minnesota Teacher of the Year. This recognition is a reflection of his commitment and dedication to making a positive impact on students' academic success in his classroom. Mr. Vernosh is one of our finest teachers and is deserving of this honor.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to thank the teachers who have made differences in their lives and honor them by supporting H. Res. 1312.

IN HONOR OF TIMOTHY E. RYAN

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, as a representative of the nearly 66,000 veterans in my district, I rise today to recognize the men and women who have selflessly sacrificed their lives to serve our country. On May 28, 2010, the Ocean County Veterans Memorial Association will conduct a wreath laying ceremony to honor all deceased veterans.

I would further like to recognize the host of the memorial service, Mr. Timothy E. Ryan, for the extraordinary contributions that he has done for the local veterans of Ocean County.

Mr. Ryan is a charter member of the Ocean County Deceased Veterans Memorial Association and a longtime sponsor of the annual wreath laying memorial service. He has been named 'Outstanding Citizen of the Year' by local VFW groups, and has been awarded several high honors by the Jersey Shore Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He serves as Director of Timothy E. Ryan Home for Funerals, the largest family-owned firm in New Jersey.

The 14th Annual Veterans Wreath Laying Ceremony and Memorial Service honoring the deceased veterans of Ocean County will occur on May 28, 2010 at the Ocean County Library. In recognition of his outstanding contributions and service to our veteran community, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Timothy E. Ryan.

HONORING MR. DAVID PRINCE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the years of service given to the people of Chautauqua County by Mr. David Prince. Mr. Prince served his constituency faithfully and justly during his tenure as the Village Justice in the Village of Fredonia.

Public service is a difficult and fulfilling career. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Prince served his term with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the people of Chautauqua County.

We are truly blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Prince is one of those people and that is why, Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to him today.

CONGRATULATING LINDA GRANT

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to congratulate Linda Grant for being named the 2010 Direct Support Professional (DSP) of the Year for Louisiana. The American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR) recently honored Linda with this wonderful recognition.

As a DSP, Linda works to support people with disabilities through community-based services that promote independence and inclusion for individuals with intellectual, behavior and other disabilities. This award is testament that Linda is a true leader for her work assisting those with disabilities to live meaningful and productive lives.

She is an example of how one person can change the lives of many, and I commend Linda for her hard work and dedication to making a positive difference in the community. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Linda Grant for this significant achievement.

A TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH W. COTCHETT ON THE OCCASION OF NOTRE DAME DE NAMUR UNIVERSITY'S 2010 COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD GALA

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, it can be said that the word extraordinary has become too commonplace a term used in all-too-ordinary circumstances.

I rise today in appreciation of a man who fully embodies that word, a truly extraordinary man—Joseph W. Cotchett.

He is a man of passion and great intellect, a man of incredible attention to detail, a broad, sweeping embrace for all life has to offer, and a serious man capable of great joy. He has a thirst for fairness, a passion for justice and an unquenchable desire to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.

On the evening of May 22, 2010, Joe is being honored with the Notre Dame de Namur University 2010 Community Spirit Award. The event is sold out and will be attended by friends, colleagues and admirers, each with a story about Joe standing at their side in a time of need. Similarly, the Honorary Gala Committee is more than 150 names long and represents every profession and every walk of life that Joe has touched—labor, sports, finance, entertainment, the environment, politics . . . including the Speaker of the House, and, of course, his beloved profession of the law.

Joe embodies the finest values of our great nation. With an abiding love for his country, Joe served in the U.S. Army in the Intelligence Corps, the Judge Advocate General's Corps, and as a paratrooper in Special Forces. After active duty, he remained in the Army Reserve for more than 30 years, retiring as a Colonel.

His generosity is legendary . . . whether making a major gift to his alma mater, California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, where he received a degree in Engineering, or the University of California Hastings College of the Law, where he received his law degree. He gives everywhere and to everyone and in countless ways—rebuilding a landmark grocery store in Half Moon Bay, buying a table at the annual fundraising events of dozens of local nonprofits, or serving as a board member to dozens of others.

Then there is Joe Cotchett, the lawyer. He has been named one of our nation's pre-eminent trial lawyers for more than a decade, winning every recognition in his profession. He has won judgment after judgment—totaling billions of dollars—on behalf of investors defrauded by modern-day robber barons.

Often donating the time and resources of his talented law firm, Joe has defended the First Amendment against corporate bullying, defended citizens against the oppressive hand of government, brought suit on behalf of the dispossessed children of American servicemen in the Philippines and defended the judicial system against Wall Street.

Wherever power is abused, greed runs rampant or injustice flourishes, Joe is there to stand up and to bring to account those who would twist the American system to their own ends.

Remarkably, after decades of fighting the good fight, he has not grown weary.

He has not lost his capacity to get angry.

For all this, he is a man of old-fashioned values . . . carry your own weight, pay your own way, tend to your family and your friends. He has an unending pride in his five children and six grandchildren, who he organizes as if they, too, served in the Armed Forces.

And he does all these things with an endearing quirkiness that can take the form of worrying whether all the chairs in the conference room are facing in the right direction or eliminating every speck of dust around.

Joe is tender and kind. He honors each of us with his presence and does so in a way that makes us feel special when we are blessed to be with him.

Madam Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me and the community